WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857

SEPTEMBER 1983

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

President's Message
PLEASE MARK CALENDAR, PLAN TO ATTEND WCHS EVENTS

Dear Members,

I look forward to another year of activities with the Washtenaw County Historical Society and have been working on special plans throughout the summer.

The meeting dates are scheduled for 1983-84 and, back by popular demand, are the POTLUCKS. Two are planned for this year! Johanna Wiese, Vice-President and Program Chairman, has planned many interesting programs and all of the information is printed on a special sheet in the *IMPRESSIONS*. PLEASE SAVE THE SHEET FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

Emilie Polens, Farm Supervisor at Cobblestone Farm, contacted me to ask the Washtenaw County Historical Society to participate in a fashion show of historic clothing. She asked to use our clothing and the setting would be Cobblestone Farm.

I felt that this was a wonderful idea and would not only afford us the opportunity to work with Cobblestone, but would offer our members an opportunity to see the Society's collection of clothing. It is planned as a fund-raiser for both groups.

On *Sunday, October 30, 1983,* from 12 to 5 p.m., "A Century Of Fashion" will be seen at Cobblestone Farm. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend! I am anxious for you to see the lovely things that have been given to the Society through the years.

The Traveling Exhibit of the Society's artifacts was very well received last year. This year we shall have two exhibits circulating through Washtenaw County.

If you have any questions or suggestions, I am always happy to hear from you. Only through working together can we hope to have our Society grow. Please attend the meetings and share our common bond, HISTORY.

Sincerely,
Patricia Austin
663-2951 (office)
663-5281 (home)

CENTURY OF FASHION DISPLAY FEATURES WCHS COLLECTION

"A Century Of Fashion," an exhibition Sunday, October 30, at Cobblestone Farm will afford a rare opportunity to see some of the clothing treasures stored away these many years by WCHS.

The exhibition is jointly sponsored by both organizations. Most of the clothing will be from the WCHS collection. Vicky Rigney, a Cobblestone volunteer, is painstakingly cleaning and pressing it, using accepted museum techniques involving vacuuming and steaming.

A wide variety of clothing will be shown for men, women and children. It ranges from the shawl of Ann Arbor's "co-founding mother" Mary Ann Rumsey to a 1920 men's bathing suit to former Mayor Brown's circa 1950 morning coat.

Also included is a circa 1880 wedding dress worn by the daughter and granddaughter of Ann Arbor pioneers remembered today in street names: (Daniel) Hiscock and Eber White.

Tickets at $4 for adults and $2 for senior citizens and those 6 through 18 are available from Kathy Sutton, 994-5196 (home) or 665-4081 (office) or at the Farm, 794-2928. The showing will be from noon to 5 p.m.

PASTOR TO TALK ABOUT 150–YEAR–OLD CHURCH AT SEPTEMBER 11 MEETING

In conjunction with the tricentennial of German immigration to the United States this year, WCHS will hear about one of the county's oldest German churches at its meeting at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, September 12, at the Ann Arbor American Legion, 1035 South Main.

"Bethlehem Church, 150 Years in Washtenaw County" will be the topic of the Reverend Orval L.E. Williman, pastor. Now a United Church of Christ, it began as a German Evangelical Church in Michigan's territorial days.

Pastor Williman has served Bethlehem since 1974, coming here from his native Missouri. Active in church and local affairs, he is president of the Evangelical Homes of Michigan, chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Board of Catherine McAuley Health Center (St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital), president of the Ecumenical Campus Center Board and a Kiwanian among other things.

Free parking available. Refreshments. Bring your friends.

WEST GERMAN BAND PLANS TRICENTENNIAL CONCERT SEPTEMBER 28 AT HILL

In honor of the tricentennial of German immigration to the United States several observances are planned in Ann Arbor this fall, sponsored by local German societies and the University of Michigan.

A free public concert will be given by a West German Military Band at 8 p.m. Wednesday, September 28, in Hill Auditorium. During October there will be a display on America's German heritage at the Ann Arbor Public Library.

A gala Heritage Ball is planned Saturday, November 12, at the Campus Inn. Mary Ann Rauer heads the tricentennial committee.

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP, FOUNDED 1833

A Bit Of New England Here In Washtenaw

In 1833, 150 years ago, when early settlers in northern Washtenaw County were casting about for a name for their township, New England statesman Daniel Webster was at the height of his career.

Munnis Kenny, an ardent admirer of Webster, suggested it be named Webster, and Luther Boyden, another Webster admirer, endorsed it. (Kenny later served as the first president of WCHS in 1858.)

The 1983 WCHS bus tour explored the area, reminiscent of New England, which yet today boasts no shopping centers or superhighways. Tour guide was James Parker, president of the Webster Township Historical Society and perhaps the township's chief fan. He is also the author of *A Brief History of Webster Township, 1833-1983.*

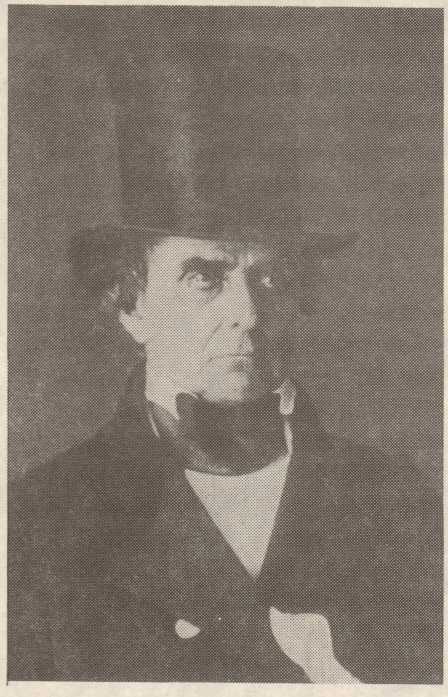
A year after the township was named, the settlers started building a church but ran out of money and had to leave the frame uncovered through the winter. But come spring, Moses Kingsley went back east to obtain funds to complete the church.

One of those he called on in Boston was Daniel Webster, who, perhaps flattered at having the township named for him, gave Kingsley what the latter called his "best" donation — reputedly $100. With that and other donations the church could be enclosed. And that is the county's Daniel Webster connection — he helped build Webster Church.

This year's tour focused mostly on the eastern half of the township and the four corners where the church and community house are located.

The bus took Maple Road north out of Ann Arbor across the old iron truss bridge over the Huron River near Barton Hills to Joy Road, the southeast corner of the township, then west on Joy.

While Judge Samuel W. Dexter who bought land and built a log cabin in 1824 was the first settler in Webster township, the first settlers in the east part, the focus of the tour, were Thomas Alexander and Luther Boyden in 1826-27.



Courtesy of J. Parker
Daniel Webster helped build Webster Church

The bus paused in front of the Boyden-Zeeb "Brookwater" farm. The farm buildings are surrounded by an unusual expanse of level land called "Boyden's Plains."

The Greek Revival house with Italianate brackets under the roof was built between 1840 and 1850 of red bricks from the property. There is also an Italianate style brick barn circa 1850 and Boyden's first frame barn among the other buildings.

It was a source of pride to Luther Boyden, a temperance man, that he successfully got his neighbors to raise that first barn in 1830 without benefit of hard liquor. He promised them only a good meal. Religious services and weddings were held there in the early days.

The Boyden farm 50-100 years ago was nationally renowned, Parker said, for large livestock auctions of swine, sheep and cattle. As many as 600 people from all over would gather there for a picnic and auction each year.

Two of the three original Greek Revival tenant houses still stand across Joy Road. The farm had a succession of owners. Today Don Zeeb, township supervisor, and his wife own it. They farm more than 1,000 acres.

Around the corner on Jennings Road, opposite the Boyden farm, is the land taken up by Alexander on May 1, 1826. It is now divided among descendants and other owners. Tom and Richard Alexander are the fifth generation of their family to own it. Mrs. Zeeb who now lives on the Boyden farm was also an Alexander.

Parker pointed out the leaning silo of Webster on the Richard Alexander farm. Boyden School, the township's first, used to stand on the west side of Jennings on a lot from the Alexander land.

The bus approached Webster Corners from the east on Farrell Road, then proceeded north on Webster Church Road and west on Gregory Road to the 1871 township hall. The little white frame building, still used for voting and meetings, is a registered state historic site. It is the sixth oldest township hall in continuous use in Michigan.

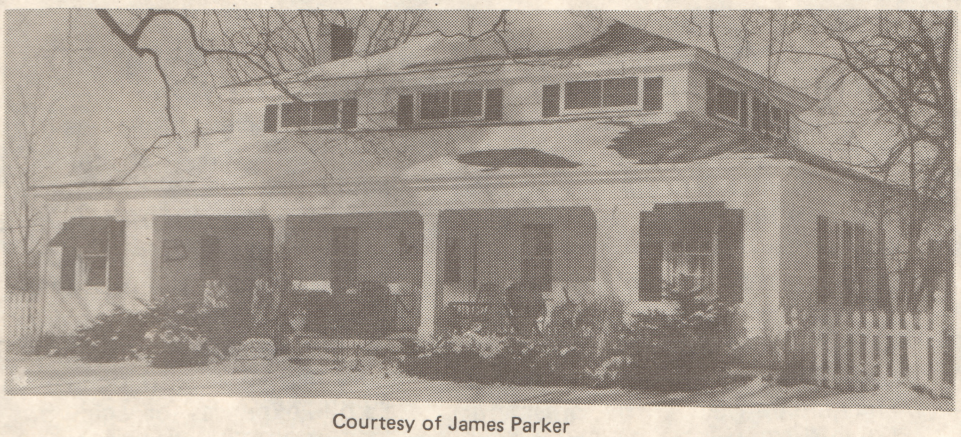
Township Supervisor Zeeb and others greeted tourgoers there. Photographs, maps and printed materials were displayed for browsing before the slide show.

The slide show "covered" the township, showing things the tour would not cover as well as reviewing and previewing.

Among the slides were pictures of:

- The Judge Dexter mansion. The Judge who was the county's first judge and newspaper publisher, founded Dexter village and nearby built Gordon Hall, named for his mother, in 1842-43. It is in the extreme southwest corner of the township.

An imposing Greek Revival mansion, it was considered the finest house west of Detroit when it was built. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. Now owned by



Courtesy of James Parker

Williams-Mast Cottonwood Farm
Webster township was organized in this house in 1833.

the University of Michigan, it is used as an apartment house.

• Scadin Pond, Webster's version of Walden Pond. A nature preserve, Parker said it is best left to the mosquitos in summer, but nice in spring or fall.

• Kenny-Baldus Centennial Farm on Webster Church Road, operated by Don and Wana Baldus.

• Munnis Kenny farm, home of the great-grandson and namesake of the pioneer.

• The 1840 blacksmith shop on the Wheeler-McMichael-Beaugrand place on Webster Church north of North Territorial Road. The Webster Society wants to move and restore the shop last used in 1917. Many original tools are still there. There is a wagonmaker's shop upstairs with sleigh runner forms and such.

• Walsh Road. "The prettiest road in the township," Parker thinks.

• The O'Brien-Smith house on Jennings Road north of Territorial, recently converted into a southern mansion style.

• Thomas-Lowe family cemetery on Valentine Road. Descendants say the pine trees in the cemetery were planted from seeds sent by Queen Victoria from Buckingham Palace. Mr. Lowe was once her gardener. A Mrs. Rachel Lowe once ran a rural post office nearby.

• A house on Zeeb Road Henry Ford once wanted for Greenfield Village but the owner wouldn't sell.

• Cooley Family cemetery on Valentine Road, dating to 1840's. No stones now standing.

• Valentine-Burnett house on Walsh Road.

• Merrill School on Merrill Road. Students from there in 1850's were admitted to the U-M law school without examination!

• New award winning structures at Independence Lake Park, designed by David Osler.

• John Williams Cemetery. The township founder, his wife and mother are only three persons buried (1843-45) in small cemetery a half-mile west of the Community House and over in field. Other members of Williams family are buried in a corner of the yard at Cottonwood Farm.

• Podunk School, 1946, on Walsh Road at Merrill, one of five remaining one-room schools of original seven in township. Others are Cushing, Peatt, Merrill and Church. Church School, a public school, was moved across the road and attached to Webster Church to become a church school.

• An octagon house on Mast Road near Dexter.

• Memorial of the Reverend Charles Clark in Webster Church Cemetery, who founded the Presbyterian/Congregational Church in Dexter and then founded Webster Church.

Luncheon was served by the Webster Community Guild in the Community House, a former apple and cider storage shed built before 1870 on the Williams or "Cottonwood" farm. It was converted to a community house for the church in 1925. It has since been used for meetings, meals, dances and other social gatherings.

The unusual luncheon menu featured cold cucumber soup, chicken quiche, spinach salad and cheesecake.

After lunch, tourgoers could walk to Cottonwood Farm and the Scadin house. At Cottonwood Farm perhaps the first thing they noticed was the mural Mrs. Mast painted on the side of her barn, then her new craft house and the fine old Greek Revival home, filled with antiques, where the township was organized 150 years ago.

Mrs. Mast's paintings include the log house she was born in on Esch Road near Manchester. The Webster Society had hoped to move and restore it but it was too far gone — it fell in last winter.

Will Scadin, descendant of a pioneer and a faithful member of Webster Church, willed his farm and home to the church. The house is now the parsonage and the barn serves as the Webster Recycling Station.

The 1885 Italianate cube style house with a widow's walk on top has been renovated recently and was opened for the first time to the WCHS tour. It is occupied by the Reverend John and Vida McCray-Gardner.

In the back yard a wall-papered outhouse with cut stone foundation was undergoing restoration as an Eagle Scout project.

Tourgoers boarded the bus for the Kleinschmidt and Brigham houses.

Formerly dairy farmers, Paul and Liz Kleinschmidt recently built a Cape Cod retirement home a half mile north of the church. Geothermal heat from exchange of duck pond water and wood fireplaces heat it. The modern farm kitchen is designed for large-scale cooking and entertaining.

Tourgoers walked up the narrow wooded drive to the Brigham "bow" house, a half mile south of the church, while the bus waited on Webster Church Road.

"Bow" houses are a variation of Cape Cod style originated in 1690 by shipbuilders who made the roof the shape of a ship's hull. It gives

occupants a lot more head room in the second floor.

Pine planks, brick, plaster and small window panes provide an appropriate setting for the Brighams' "primitive" American furnishings and collections. The *Detroit Free Press* had a full page article on the house last winter.

Not so far from their house on the former Williams farm is the ravine in which Washtenaw County's probably all-time largest tree grew. It was a walnut, seven feet in diameter, cut down in 1830. It was cut into eight 12-foot logs, the main trunk was 96 feet. An ox team rolled a seven foot log but couldn't get it out, let alone the heavier main trunk logs. Some of it was eventually taken out. Part of it got covered up and was retrieved 50 years later.

Back on the bus the tour headed north for a swing through the township, stopping at the Olsaver-Litke-Curtis 1872 Italianate farm house for lemonade and a view of the "cat-house" on the side porch for the family felines.

SALVATION, EDUCATION, DAMNATION, MORTIFICATION: THAT'S WEBSTER CORNERS

Except for a near brush with Dexter Village, the four corners at Webster Church and Farrell Roads is about as close to even a hamlet that the very rural township comes.

For many years the corners were occupied by the church (southeast), school (southwest), before it was moved and attached to the church in 1955, the apple and cider storage shed, since 1925 the Community House (northwest) and the Scadin family cemetery (northeast).

There's an old saying there that on those corners sit the representations of these four elements: Salvation (church), Education (school), Damnation (hard cider) and Mortification (cemetery).

The final stop was Webster Church. Tourgoers entered through the church school and saw the large green historic marker sign to be erected and dedicated by the church Sunday, September 18.

Inside the group sat down in the white sanctuary, accented with red carpet and seat cushions for a hymn sing led by Vida McCray-Gardner.

At Annual Meeting

ETHELYN MORTON GIVEN HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP: PATRICIA AUSTIN RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF WCHS

Upon her retirement as secretary and corresponding secretary for 11 years, Ethelyn Morton was awarded honorary life membership in the Washtenaw County Historical Society at its annual meeting May 19.

Karen Murphy was elected to succeed her as corresponding secretary. Other officers were re-elected. They are Patricia Austin, president; Johanna Wiese, vice-president; Elizabeth Dusseau, treasurer; and Alice Ziegler, recording secretary.

Elected to three-year terms on the board were Nancy Schuon, Galen Wilson, Susan Carbeck Lande and James Parker. Kathleen Sherzer and Kathleen Sutton will fill out terms expiring next spring which were vacated by Iver Schmidt and John Dann.

Mrs. Morton, Dr. Dann and David Pollock, however, will continue as directors at large. Mary Steffek Blaske and Rosalie Moore retired.

The remainder of the board is composed of Frances Couch, Bradley Taylor, Patricia Dufek, Carol Freeman, Arthur French, Esther Warzynski and at-large, Douglas Crary, Warren Hale, Harold Jones and Wystan Stevens.

Officers and committee chairmen reviewed the year's activities which were highlighted by the 125th anniversary celebration in November.

The Society voted to withdraw from the Barton Powerhouse lease and investigate the possibility of restoring an 1836 log house at Cobblestone Farm.

A hands-on traveling exhibit of artifacts was successfully launched in the public schools and the Society loaned appropriate items from its collection to Cobblestone Farm and Dexter Museum. Society items have been on display at Kempf House for several years.

Restorations completed this year included the three county atlases of 1874, 1895 and 1915, the hair wreath and some chairs recovered in horsehair. The wreath and chairs are at Kempf House.

The Society also plans to mark the lots of Ann Arbor founding families Allen and Rumsey. While John Allen is not buried there, some members of his family are. Elisha Walker Rumsey is buried there along with other family members.

Miss Dusseau reported the Society had $5,268.66 income and $3,670 expenses for a gain of $1,598.66. The Society's capital on April 30, 1982 was $18,807.90 and a year later, $20,406.56.

The Powerhouse account had $2,125.16 interest income and $79.19 expenses for a gain of $2,045.97. The capital on April 30, 1982 was $16,380.47 and a year later, $18,426.44.

The meeting was held following a potluck dinner in the basement of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at Jefferson and Fourth Streets, formerly the German Methodist Church.

GERMAN MIGRANT'S PAPER HOME FROM CALIFORNIA

It's a long trip from Ann Arbor to San Diego, California, and back but that is the route taken by a Declaration of Intention to become a United States citizen by John Bobble on March 30, 1887 in Washtenaw County Circuit Court.

There is a notation that he was admitted October 17, 1892. In the intention, he renounces forever all allegiance and fidelity to each and every Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty . . . particularly the Emperor of Germany."

Local city and county directories do not list him. The San Diego Historical Society sent it home.

DEXTER ELECTS OFFICERS

Dexter Historical Society re-elected Anne Nuttle, president. Earl Doletzky is vice-president; Rose Van Aken, corresponding secretary; and Alice Pastalan, treasurer.

The museum staff is Nina Rackham, director; Bruce Waggoner, assistant director; Lorraine Govaere, curator; Nancy Walker, secretary; Mrs. Pastalan, treasurer; and Ben Wood, museum reporter.

RLDS CONGREGATION WELCOMES WCHS TO OLD WEST SIDE CHURCH WHICH DATES TO GASLIGHT ERA

The pride of ownership that marks the Old West Side is very much in evidence at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on West Jefferson at Fourth Street.

The denomination celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1980. That led one of the congregation, Zatha Bruns, to study the history of their church building as a sesquicentennial project.

Someone directed her to Wystan Stevens, local historian, who told her off the top of his head that the church was built in 1896. He sent her to the U-M graduate library to look up more about it in old issues of the *Ann Arbor Times News.*

Her interest led her to come to WCHS meetings and invite the Society to meet there sometime. Somewhat belatedly WCHS accepted and held its 1983 annual meeting there May 19 beginning with a potluck supper.

Miss Bruns discovered the church was dedicated July 12, 1896 by German Methodists. During her project she received a letter from the granddaughter of the Methodist minister who planned the Gothic style brick building.

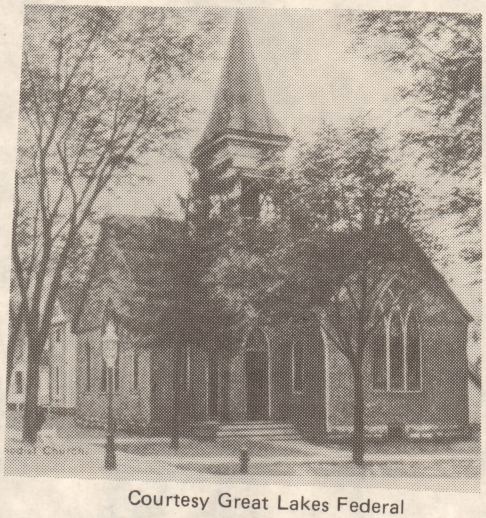
Miss Bruns said the building was built and in use before the basement was built so she thinks they may have heated it with a stove upstairs. She found evidence of gas lights.

The German Methodist Church became the West Side Methodist Church and in 1951 had outgrown the Jefferson Street church so it built a new church at 900 South Seventh Street and sold the old church to the present congregation.

The darkened red bricks were sandblasted in 1965, brightening and freshening the building. As part of the Old West Side it is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Miss Bruns who has a special love for the little church showed the group around, pointing out the stained glass windows, the high tower with bell she likes to ring and eight rank temple organ, installed in December 1980, which she played.

Hosting WCHS with Miss Bruns were Elder and Mrs. Ron Harris and Elder and Mrs. Dale Jones. Lavonne Harris, a master's degree candidate in organ, also played the organ while her husband led a group hymn sing. Elder Jones was presiding elder when Miss Bruns started her study project.



Courtesy Great Lakes Federal

Old West Side Church, 1896 now home to Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

The audience found the congregation sings a lot of the same hymns sung in other churches. Upon request of Dan Lirones for a song unique to their faith, Elder Harris led singing of "Redeemer of Israel" written in 1837 in the early days of the church when the denomination was experiencing a good deal of turmoil.

WCHS MEETINGS SET

In 1983-84, WCHS plans monthly meetings through May except for December and January. All are to be at the Ann Arbor American Legion which has free parking and an entrance ramp.

Two potlucks are planned on the fourth Wednesdays of October and May. Otherwise meetings will be at 2:30 p.m. the second Sunday.

Membership meetings will be held Wednesday, October 26, Sundays November 13, February 12, March 11, April 8 and Wednesday, May 23.

NEW DAUGHTER FOR DANNS

Dr. and Mrs. John Dann are the proud parents of their second daughter, Orelia Elizabeth, born May 26. Dr. Dann, past WCHS president, is a director-at-large.

LOOSE GOOSE DID NOT DETER TRUE LOVE

In the not so ecumenical 1840's a good German Lutheran girl was supposed to have nothing to do with German Methodists, Mrs. Edith Staebler Kempf, past WCHS president, explained at the annual meeting in the former German Methodist Church.

But, alas, Lutheran Christina Kempf, an ancestor of her late husband, Paul Kempf, fell in love with a German Methodist.

One evening the young man took Christina to evening services at the first German Methodist Church on Liberty at Division.

Two of her brothers couldn't stand that so they stole one of their mother's geese, sneaked up to the open windows of the church and threw the goose in while the congregation was singing.

But the prank did not deter Christina who married the young Methodist who later became a minister.

The German Methodists were from Cologne, Mrs. Kempf said. They wanted their own church because they did not feel at ease with the First Methodists.

BRITISH ISLES WORKSHOP SET HERE OCTOBER 28-29

A widely-known professional genealogist, Arlene Eakle of Salt Lake City, Utah, will be main speaker at a British Isles workshop Saturday, October 29, at Webers Inn, sponsored by the Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County.

A beginner's workshop will be held from 7-9:30 p.m. the previous evening at the Ann Arbor Public Library.

Fees are $18 including lunch for the Saturday workshop if registered by October 10 or $20 after. The Friday workshop is $5 or, if one attends both, it is $3. For information call 994-5550 or 668-1375.

HIS ORICAL HAPPENINGS: OF CORN HUSKERS, A FIRE BARN, 'SESQUIS' AND 'ARSENIC AND OLD LACE'

Chelsea Historical Society — Meets 7:30 p.m. second Monday at McKune Library, 221 South Main. Th main focus of this year's activitie will be planning for the village's ses quicentennial next year and helping the community put out an historical booklet, President Ben Bowver said.

Dexter Historical Society — Meets 7:30 p.m. first Thursday at museum, 3443 Inverness. For September-October, special museum exhibits will be cornhusker's tools and 1920 and '30's dresses.

Manchester Historical Society — Meets 8 p.m. third Monday at Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main. Program Chairman Ann Fowler plans a review of the history of Manchester Village and Township this year, especially for new members. Mrs. Robert Chapin will present the first program in September covering 1800-1840. Social meetings are planned in alternate months.

The Michigan Historical Commission has been invited to have its October meeting at the Blacksmith Shop. The Society is awaiting word.

President John Swainson is video taping events at Manchester for future historians and plans to show a video tape of the 30th Manchester Chicken Broil at the September meeting.

In spite of drenching rain and threat of tornados for the first time in 30 years on that date, the broil was held July 21, thousands served and the new historical marker dedicated in front of the Schneider Blacksmith Shop Museum. Governor Blanchard who planned to come by helicopter was grounded in Grand Rapids.

President Swainson says the Society is preparing a calendar with a dozen scenes of Manchester to sell as a fund raiser this fall. The Society netted $600 from a collectible sale the final day of the community fair in August.

Milan Historical Society — M ts 7:30 p.m. third Wednesday at lack House, 775 County Street, u ss announced otherwise. An a que dealer will discuss furniture and appraise small pieces members bring in at the September 21 meeting.

The Society now owns the old fire barn and raised the money and re-roofed it. The annual harvest dinner for members will be there October 19.

The Society has a new caretaker for the Hack Homestead who has been active in the historical societies in the East and will do some archival work for the Society.

Northfield Township Historical Society — Quarterly membership meeting 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 21, Whitmore Lake High School cafeteria. Public invited to bring old photos, family Bibles, etc. to show and tell about. A photographer will be on hand to copy photos.

The Society is working on oral history of the area in honor of the township sesquicentennial this year and also is in process of writing a township history. Election of officers also planned at meeting.

Webster Historical Society — Instead of a fall festival this year the Society will join with the Township Board and Webster United Church of Christ in celebrating the township's sesquicentennial on Saturday, September 17.

A state historic plaque to be attached to the 1871 township hall will be dedicated at 1:30 p.m. that day. The next day, a state historic marker in front of Webster Church will be unveiled and dedicated. Representatives of the state historical commission are expected to attend.

From 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, baked goods and homemade crafts will be on sale in the Community House, crafts will be demonstrated in Mrs. May Mast's craft house and rummage and antiques will be on sale in her barn. Luncheon will be served at the Community House from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At 1 p.m. a parade wll leave Mrs. Mast's Cottonwood Farm for the township hall about a mile away on Gregory Road for afternoon activities. A picture of Daniel Webster, for whom the township was named, will be dedicated and hung.

A pageant will re-enact the meeting at which it was decided to build the town hall and James Parker, Society president, will present a slide show about the township.

Historical materials and old and new farm equipment will be displayed. An ice cream social is planned and the Dexter Kiwanis will have a food wagon there.

The Cobblestone Dancers will present a square and contra dance from 7-11 p.m. at the Community Hall. At 9 p.m. at the dance, a drawing will be held for a signed, numbered print by Kathy McClung, a local wildlife artist, and other prizes.

Next day, the church historic plaque will be dedicated following 10:30 a.m. church services to which the public is invited. A potluck dinner, also public, will follow in the community house. Just bring table service and a dish to pass.

Ypsilanti Historical Society — The current museum display features the early Ypsilanti Players founded in 1915 by Daniel L. Quirk, Jr. The parlor is fitted up with mannequins dressed to depict a scene from "Arsenic and Old Lace." Quirk's daughter, Nancy Williams, and her husband, former Governor G. Mennen Williams, visited the exhibit when it first opened in August.

Museum hours are 2-4 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The museum is at 220 North Huron. Ruth Wright who retired after 23 years as secretary to the Ypsilanti school superintendent is the new museum archivist and Society secretary.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT AUSTIN

Committees for 1983-84 include Log Cabin, President Patricia Austin, chairman, Douglas Crary, Patricia Dufek, Elizabeth Dusseau, Carol Freeman, David Pollock, Esther Warzynski, Johanna Wiese and Alice Ziegler.

Proposed tour to Virginia, Mrs. Warzynski, chairman, Wystan Stevens, co-chairman, Frances Couch, Harold Jones, Miss Wiese, and Mrs. Ziegler.

Bylaws, Lucille Fisher, chairman, Crary, Jones, Pollock, Miss Wiese, and Mrs. Ziegler. Collections, Galen Wilson, chairman, John Dann, and Bradley Taylor. Refreshments, Dalys Vogel, chairman, Doris Bailey and Kathleen Sherzer.

Nominating, Mrs. Warzynski, chairman, Crary, Miss Dusseau and Mrs. Ziegler. Cemetery marking, Mrs. Warzynski, chairman, Jones and Wystan Stevens. Membership, Kathleen Sherzer, chairman, Ethelyn Morton and Karen Murphy.

Art Fair Parking, 1983, Peter Rocco, chairman, Miss Dusseau and Mrs. Warzynski. Liasion with other historical societies, James Parker, chairman, Jones and Warren Hale. Resolutions, Mrs. Fisher, chairman, and Mrs. Ziegler.

History promotion in the public schools, Susan Lande, chairman, Elsie Dyke, Pollock, Nancy Schuon, Stevens and George Wieland. Local affairs, Bradley Taylor, chairman and Marjorie Brazer. Kempf House representatives, Mrs. Austin and Parker. Liaison with Cobblestone, Kathleen Sutton. Traveling exhibit, Mrs. Austin. *Impressions* and publicity, Mrs. Ziegler.

President Austin will serve ex officio on the committees.

GSWC TO HEAR POTTERS

Bill and Trudy Potter will talk about restoring and copying old photographs at Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County meeting at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, September 25.

The meeting will be in Hale Auditorium of the U-M School of Business Administration at Tappan and Monroe Streets, Ann Arbor.

COUNTY'S GERMAN CHURCHES INCLUDE SOME YOU MAY NOT HAVE SUSPECTED OR A GERMAN ≠ A LUTHERAN

How many German churches are there in Washtenaw County? If you counted all the Lutheran Churches of different synods in the telephone book you'd still be missing several including one you might never have suspected, unless you're an old timer.

You would be missing seven former Evangelical and Reformed Churches who joined with some Congregational and Disciples of Christ Churches to become United Churches of Christ. (Not all Congregational Churches joined. Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Chelsea still have Congregational Churches.)

The list of United Churches of Christ includes Bethlehem in Ann Arbor, St. Andrew's in Dexter, St. Paul's in Chelsea, Bethel Church in Freedom Township, Emanuel Church in Manchester, St. Paul's in Saline and St. James west of Saline. The Church of the Good Shepherd in Ann Arbor, founded in the late 1950's, is also a United Church but "German" only in the sense that some former Bethlehem members helped found it.

And what is the German church you might never have suspected? It's West Side Methodist.

A few of the Germans who came to Washtenaw in the nineteeth century were Methodists and they asked the church for their own German speaking ministers.

By 1846 they had started their own German Methodist Church or *Erst Deutsche Methodisten Kirche.*

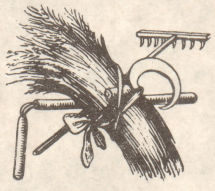
Their first building was erected in 1847 on the northwest corner of Liberty and Division Streets, now the U Cellar Bookstore, formerly Handicraft Furniture.

By 1895 they had outgrown their church. They built another at West Jefferson and Fourth Streets in what today is known as the Old West Side where many German families lived.

Their new Gothic style brick church was dedicated July 12, 1896. In 1919 when anything German was unpopular the name was changed to West Side Methodist.

By 1951 they had outgrown the Jefferson Street building and built the present church at 900 South Seventh Street. They sold their old church to its present occupants, the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Interestingly enough, Daniel F. Allmendinger, one of the earliest German settlers who gave land in 1833 in what is now Bethlehem Cemetery for the first log church which became later Bethlehem Church, became a charter member of the German Methodist Church in 1846, serving as secretary and trustee.



COBBLESTONE TO HOST TWO FALL FESTIVALS

Cobblestone Farm will be the setting for a Harvest Festival from noon to 7 p.m. Sunday, September 18, and the Fall Festival from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, October 2.

The first will feature a 1 p.m. public potluck picnic, exhibits of produce, canned goods, honey and herbs. There will be demonstrations of food preservation techniques and square dancing by the Cobblestone Farm Country Dancers with Sharon Hollow String Band.

Cobblestone Farm Association will sponsor the October 2 festival featuring a wide variety of pioneer craft demonstrations – cider pressing, spinning, weaving, candle dipping, making of bobbin lace, cane doll cradles, maple sugar, butter and honey. Cobblestone Dancers will dance.

While the festivals are outside, the house at 2781 Packard will be open for tours both days. Admission is $1 for adults, 50 cents for youths and seniors. The log cabin will be open October 2. Don't forget WCHS members with membership cards get in free. Questions? Call 994-2928.

BA[illegible]ON ARTIFACTS CLEANED, MOVED TO WILLOW RUN: STO[illegible]AGE AREA TIDIED, COLLECTION PUT IN ORDER

[illegible]hanks to a few hard working, ded[illegible]ated people, and an assist from Cap[illegible]in Clean and Godfrey Moving Cor[illegible]any, all the artifacts at Barton Pov[illegible]house were cleaned and moved to W[illegible]low Run storage and the stor[illegible]e area cleaned, tidied and orga[illegible]ized by category in June.

[illegible]ollowing the Society's vote to w[illegible]thdraw from the Barton Powerhouse lease in February, the Ann Arbor City Council voted April 18 to terminate the lease and partially reimburse the Society for some permanent improvements to the building such as new roof and windows.

Thanks are due to Attorney Richard P. Whitker who reviewed the termination agreement and advised the Society without charge. The city required the Society to vacate and clean the building by July 1.

President Patricia Austin and Treasurer Elizabeth Dusseau supervised the moving and organization of things, assisted by Carol Freeman, Ethelyn Morton and Peter Rocco.

Because of the size of the moving project, heavy items to be moved and the health hazard from pigeon droppings, the Board authorized hiring professional assistance with the move and clean-up at Barton.

Captain Clean's men not only cleaned and scrubbed the Barton artifacts, they also oiled them to help preserve them. Now that things are shipshape, the Society welcomes donations. Galen Wilson, curator of manuscripts at Clements Library, is chairman of the collection committee. He may be reached at 764-2347 (office) or 572-2105 (home).

The Barton key has been returned and the Society awaits reimbursement.

OWS HOUSE TOUR SET SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

The Ann Arbor Old West Side Association annual house tour will be from 1-6 p.m. Sunday, September 18, with six houses on tour.

On tour will be 710 West Washington, 1009 West Liberty, 1013 West Liberty, 639 Turner Park (off Madison), 1310 Lutz and the former Civic Theater Building on Mulholland.

The small stone Turner Park house was converted from an artist's studio and has a small nature area next to it.

Tickets $3.50 in advance, $4.50 on the day, $2.50 for Senior Citizens, are available in several places around town including Anderson Paint, Crown House in Plymouth Mall, Little Professor Books in Maple Village and Treasure Mart.

Editor: Alice Ziegler, 663-8826
Keylining: Anna Thorsch
Printing: Whiz Print
Mailing: Karen Murphy, 665-5844
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ART FAIR PARKING PAYS; WCHS EARNS TIDY $1,005

WCHS earned $1,005 in donations by parking cars afterhours at Great Lakes Federal Savings during the Art Fair July 20-23.

A big thank you is due GLFS for permission to use their parking lots and to Chairman Peter Rocco and his helpers who staffed the lots evenings and all day Saturday.

Helpers included Pat and Bill Austin, Elizabeth Dusseau, Cal Foster, Arthur French, Susan and Joanne Lande, Dan and Mary Lirones, Karen and Bob Murphy, James Parker, Janet Rocco, Walter Schlecht, Nancy Schuon, Suzanne Viviano, Esther and Ray Warzynski, Galen Wilson and Lawrence and Alice Ziegler.

DUFF GIFT TO HELP MICROFILM NEWSPAPER

In honor of Lela Duff, author of *Ann Arbor Yesterdays*, who died April 27 at age 91, the Washtenaw County Historical Society voted to give $100 to the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library to help microfilm *The Washtenaw Tribune.*

The former weekly newspaper, published in German and later English, has not been accessible to researchers because the originals are too brittle.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2:30 p.m. Sunday
September 11, 1983
American Legion

1035 South Main
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 96
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Ypsilanti Historical Society
220 N. Huron St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

MEETING PLACE:

AMERICAN LEGION
1035 So. Main
Ann Arbor

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETINGS 1983 - 1984

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1983 2:30 p.m.

Pastor Orval Willimann will discuss "BETHLEHEM CHURCH, 150 YEARS IN WASHTENAW COUNTY"

*WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1983 6:30 p.m.

Hugh Gaston will present a program on VISITS TO CHINA AND RUSSIA (People to People program)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1983 Noon to 5 p.m.

"CENTURY OF FASHION" Historic fashion show to be presented at COBBLESTONE FARM. TICKETS REQUIRED

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1983 2:30 p.m.

Mary Blaske whose topic will be "FOOD AT THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION"

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1984 2:30 p.m.

Janice Longone will discuss "EARLY COOKBOOKS"

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1984 2:30 p.m.

Sam Breck, Jr., will present a program on "PICTURE PRESERVATION"

SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1984 2:30 p.m.

George May will discuss "THE AUTO INDUSTRY IN MICHIGAN"

*WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1984 6:30 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING Ivan Parker will discuss the "FORD SCHOOLS"

*POTLUCK DINNER TO PRECEDE MEETINGS